

Appln. No. Serial No. 09/277,417

Amtd. Dated 5/9/05

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REMARKS

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, Claims 4-30, 32-39, 42-69, 71-78, 82-90, and 97-107 are pending in this application. The Examiner rejected Claims 1-3, 13-14, 18, 21-22, 31, 40-41, 60-61, 70, 79-81, 91-96, and 108-112 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), and rejected Claims 21-22, and 60-61 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). The Examiner objected to Claims 4-12, 15-17, 19-20, 23-30, 32-39, 42-59, 62-69, 71-78, 82-89, 90, 97-98 and 99-107 but indicated that the prior art that the Examiner searched failed to disclose the subject matter of those claims. Applicants cancelled Claims 1-3, 31, 40-41, 70, 79-81, 91-96, and 108-112, rewrote Claims 4, 32, 42, 71, 82, and 97 as independent claims, and rewrote Claims 13-14, 18, and 21-22 to depend from independent Claims 4 or 42. Accordingly, this application should now be in condition for allowance.

Information Disclosure Statement

In the Second Response which was submitted on March 10, 2004, Applicants submitted a corrected PTO/SB/08 to correct the publication number of one of the references cited, namely JP8-293,883. The publication number was incorrectly shown as JP8-293,881 on the PTO/SB/08 filed on March 26, 1999, but the submitted reference was correct.. No PTO/SB/08 accompanied the Office Action mailed on February 8, 2005. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner return the PTO/SB/08 indicating that the Examiner has considered the cited information.

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CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a complete response to the Office Action identified above. This application should now be in condition for allowance, and the Applicants solicit a notice to that effect. If there are any issues that can be addressed via telephone, the Examiner is asked to contact the undersigned at 404.685.6799.

Respectfully submitted,



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